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OLD-TIME ARCHBALD



**Early Institutions and
Industries of the Town
Important Happenings
in Its History.**



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ARCHBALD, PA.



OLD-TIME ARCHBALD



The Early Institutions and
Industries of the Town.
How the Place Looked to
Pioneers.—Important Hap-
penings in Its History.

Compiled and Edited by Hon. P. A. Philbin,
Prof. James H. White, William D.
McHale and F. A. Lally.

1915
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P. A. Philbin
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Introduction



IF ANY EXPLANATION IS NEEDED FOR the printing of this book, it may be found in the "Old Home" celebration which takes place here during the week beginning July 5, 1915. The book is made up almost entirely of articles that have appeared in the Archbald Citizen at various times during the past twenty one years. They have, however, been re-written in some details and edited in others in order to bring the publication up-to-date. In addition, there are many facts stated that have never before appeared in print.

The compilers were fortunate in having assistance in preparing this book from the only person in the town who was capable of giving it, for the reason that he is the sole survivor of those who came to the village in 1845 when the town may be said to have originated. Mr. Daniel J. Gilmartin was a boy when he came here, but he has a very keen recollection of the village and its pioneers, and his aid in the preparation of this book was of great value. It is a pleasure for the compilers to thus place on record their indebtedness to Mr. Gilmartin for his generous and willing help in gathering a mass of information concerning the early history of the town that could not otherwise be obtained. To other residents of the town who aided in the preparation of the work, the thanks of the compilers are hereby tendered.

THE COMPILERS.

Archbald, Pa., July 5, 1915.

ARCHBALD BOROUGH

Interesting Facts in its Early History—Our First Burgess



TO WRITE A HISTORY OF Archbald from the very beginning it is necessary to go back to the year 1841 when the first log house was erected by a man named Anderson where the Dutch Hill School now stands. At this time the first turnpike or stage road extending from Providence (then Razorville) to Carbondale passed through the Welsh settlement on the Ridge, now the Eynon section of Archbald borough. The part of this road between Jermyn and Mott Haven is still used to some extent, in fact it forms the principal street in the village of Eynon.

The site of the Archbald of today was at that time a dense wilderness of pine, interwoven with vines of wild grapes, Laurel and many varieties of shrubbery. This virgin forest soon attracted the attention of the Andersons, the Farnhams, the Deckers, the Watres', and others, and the building of saw-mills was soon commenced.

For about five years or until the year 1846, lumbering was the only industry, and a few hardy lumbermen and craftsmen were the only inhabitants.

The few dwellings comprising the settlement were clustered around the saw mills where life at its best must have been dull and monotonous. The forest abounding in game and the streams with fish we can imagine how the early settler spent much of his spare time. With the opening of the coal mines and the building of the Gravity railroad in 1846, the real history of Archbald begins.

Archbald is now over thirty-eight years a borough. Although settled in 1846 it was not incorporated until Feb. 7, 1877.

John B. Lack one of our best known residents who died several years ago, was the first burgess of Archbald. For nearly thirty years Mr. Lack had been more or less identified with local

affairs. He was one of the most active and public spirited citizens of old Blakely township and it was owing largely to his efforts that the movement for the creation of Archbald borough was begun and carried to a successful issue. It was in recognition of



JOHN B. LACK

his interest in this matter that the people instinctively turned to him when they were called on to select their first burgess and his conduct in office proved that they had made no mistake.

The first election was held in February of that year. Previous to that time Archbald formed a part of Blakely township, which included Gibsonburg (now Jermyn), Archbald, Winton, Peckville, Olyphant and Dickson. The old township itself, less than a hundred years ago, formed part of Providence and Greenfield townships. It was named for Captain Johnson Blakely, of County Down, Ireland, and officer in the American navy, during the second war with England.

The first settlement in Blakely township was in what is now Dickson City borough. In 1786 a man named Stevens built a cabin there and in 1814 he put up the first mill in the township. In 1795 Nicholas Lenthens built

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a log cabin where Peckville stands. In 1797 Captain John Vaughan, settled there and the following year came Moses Dolph. In 1840 the population of the territory included in the township was only 590 and of this number only four were miners and one hundred and nineteen were farmers. The development of coal beds during the ten following years attracted people to the valley and in 1850 the population had increased to 1703. At this time there was only one colliery in the township—the White Oak here, the breaker of which has since been abandoned. The opening of the Providence and Carbondale turnpike also caused a rapid increase in population, because it made the coal fields more accessible, and by 1860 the population had increased one hundred per cent. over that of 1850.

The first settlers in Archbald were Welsh emigrants who came here in 1831 and settled on the "Ridge." They were the families of John Evans, John D. Jones and Daniel and Evan Price. Three years later came John, Reese, David Davis, John Owens, Rev. John Davis and Deacon and John Bowen with their families. They cultivated small pieces of ground there until coal was discovered underneath when

they sold their lands to the Tinkelpaugh Coal company. For many years the Ridge was a distinctively Welsh settlement. Their well tilled farms and comfortable homes gave evidence of the thrift and energy that mark the true pioneers, but all have passed away and there is little left, to tell of the struggles of those "knights errant of the woods." The influx of the undeveloped races of central and southern Europe has had the effect of banishing the old settlers and their children to other places. Of the large Welsh settlement in that part of our borough thirty years ago there are not more than a dozen families left.

The first settlers in Archbald proper were the late Thomas Swift, whose son, the late John J., is said to have been the first white child born in the village, the late Hon. M. M. Gilroy, the late Frank Healy, the late Patrick Gilmartin. They came here in 1845. In 1846 White Oak mine was opened and the gravity railroad was extended here. The name of the post office was "White Oak Run." It was subsequently changed to "Archbald" by the late Alvar Eaton in honor of his friend, Hon James Archbald.

The first postmaster of "White Oak Run" was G. H. Snyder and he was

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appointed in 1847. In those days the mail was received by stage which ran between Carbondale and Providence regular trips were made between these places, road and weather permitting.

The first hotel here was conducted by a man named Cannon. It was opened in 1846 or 1847 and the building used for that purpose was burned in 1862.

The first store was opened in 1846 by D. H. Taylor & Co. in a building on the public square. Soon after the opening of the Taylor store, John P. Farnham, Peter Walsh and Thomas Healey began business. Other old time grocers were: Patrick Moyles, John C. Peters and Thomas Kenny.

The first school was established here in 1847. The first school teacher was James Savage and he was of the old-fashioned type. The switch, dunce stool and the quill pen were in high favor in those days. The graded school building, removed in 1905 to make room for the present high school building, was erected in 1877.

Our present borough government was formed in 1877. It was incorporated in February and at the first election held in the same month the following officers were elected: Burgess,

John B. Lack, Council: Michael Spellman, (President), Thomas Law, (Secretary), Thomas Malone, P. J. Hennigan, John Hofsommer, chief of Police, M. J. Walsh; school directors, Dr. John Foote, Dr. J. W. Dick, J. J. Kearney, J. J. Barrett, J. T. Swift, J. H. White; Justice of the Peace, Edward Carroll, P. J. White; high constable, J. J. Gilroy. The borough was divided into wards in 1879.

The fruitful subject of dispute for several years was the southern boundary of the borough. As the lines were originally drawn part of the Peck lands were in Blakely and part in Archbald borough. For convenience the owners of the land desired all their property located in Blakely borough and court ordered a change in the boundary of Archbald borough to conform with their request. The new line was not clearly marked so the assessors of Archbald and Blakely agreed upon a line that was directly favorable to the latter borough. A great deal of the land in dispute contained coal and from this Blakely collected tax for a number of years. In 1892, after considerable expense to this borough, a commission was appointed and the line was re-established.

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Main Street " " Archbald

Archbald in 1850

HOW THE PLACE APPEARED IN EARLY DAYS
—CHANGE OF THREE SCORE YEARS—LARGE
SETTLEMENT NOW COVERED BY CULM—THE
EARLY BUSINESS MEN AND THE LOCATION
OF THEIR BUSINESS PLACES—COAL MINING
IN THE EARLY DAYS—HOW THE BLACK
DIAMONDS WERE SHIPPED TO MARKET.

The abandonment of the Gravity railroad, has brought vividly to the mind of every old resident of Archbald and the upper Lackawanna valley, scenes and incidents closely connected with its early history and growth.

How distinctly do we remember the primitive old road consisting of lines of ten by twelve hemlock rails firmly wedged in a tie or sleeper and capped by a hard wood ribbon and band of scrap iron spiked securely to the rails below.

The cars, too, were correspondingly primitive in structure and diminutive in size, with their large open-spoked wheels, which made such a rattle and clatter as they passed through the wooded jungles and circuitous windings of the road between Carbondale and Blakely (now Archbald) as to startle the deer, wolf and panther in the solemn stillness of their forest home.

In those early days of mining the methods employed were entirely different from those of today. The operations commenced by the Delaware and Hudson Canal Co., at Carbondale some twenty years before, had now extended to Blakely or White Oak Run at it was frequently called and had wrought an entire change in that settlement.

The lumber trade that had hitherto prospered had now received a fresh impetus by the opening of the coal mines on the east side of the town and the subsequent enlargement of the population, making Archbald a town of considerable importance.

When we consider the fact that the town was less than six years old we must conclude from the evidences of thrift, push and energetic effort of the people to build and improve the

town, that, had these continued Archbald would today be a place of no mean proportions.

But the romantic beauty of the surrounding scenery and the quiet repose of the village itself which nestled so cosily in the shelter of the neighboring hills have passed away forever, and with them has gone almost its entire pioneer population.

When we take a retrospective glance and mentally compare the town as we saw it in 1850 with Archbald as we see and know it today; we must confess that we have no reason to regret the many and varied changes that have taken place.

While the passing years have obliterated many of the old land-marks, and removed much of the original beauty and scenic grandeur of the place, still these same years have wrought changes infinitely more important to us, changes that directly affect the home life, social environment and domestic affairs of the people.

Archbald has failed in some respect to keep pace with some of her younger and more ambitious neighbors in their zeal to acquire size and commercial importance. Still Archbald and its people are not to be despised on account of this. It is less her fault than her misfortune. Fate seems to have willed it otherwise.

To no cause can this lack of growth and business activity be more fittingly ascribed than to a desire on the part of some of the most fortunate, progressive and energetic residents to seek speculative investments abroad. Had their well directed efforts and liberal investments been confined to the building up and development of home industries and local

institutions, there can be no doubt at all that beneficent results would follow.

While we are disposed to dwell particularly upon the bright side of our local history, still we deem the causes which brought about results adverse to the prosperity and welfare of the people, altogether too important to be entirely overlooked. At no period of our existence could it be truthfully said that our people were less progressive than any of our more pretentious neighbors or have they shown less improvement along the lines of education, refinement, religious sincerity, and moral culture.

How very few of the old landmarks are now left to either attract notice or serve in calling up from the retentive memory-cells in the brain the scenes and impressions imprinted there in the long ago.

How vividly we recall the old store house at Scott's crossing where quantities of freight were daily transferred from the old gravity cars. With what feelings of dread were we accustomed to pass that haunted spot lest we beheld the grim specter said

to dwell within its somber precincts after the shades of night had begun to fall. Fortunate also did the belated way-farer consider himself if he succeeded in passing the old Hackley store on Main street without an encounter with ghots or goblin sufficient to send chills cavorting along his spinal column. But these spookish fancies have long since vanished and the memory of them is all that is left today.

One of the most noticeable blots on the beauty of the town is caused by the towering heaps of culm and rubbish around old White Oak colliery. On that sloping hillside in the fifties were situated cosy homes the memory of which has nearly passed away.

In those days by far the major portion of the business places were clustered around the square on Bridge street. Here were located the general stores of Dan O'Hara, (Now M. J. Swift's,) Patrick Gilmartin, near the present homestead, and James Moyles, where M. T. Butler is doing business now, the confectionery of Thomas Bonner, in the adjoining building; the drug store of Dr. Van Antes, now John M. Burke's, the shoe

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Emporium of Jacob Ritter where Thos. Kenney now resides and the blacksmithing establishment of John Sweeney at the bridge, and of David Watres, opposite the old borough building the carriage factory, of Van Schaick and Son covered the Broderick lots, and by the way, this factory was one of considerable importance and magnitude giving employment to a number of carriage builders, trimmers, painters, and blacksmiths skilled workmen capable of turning out work of every description which for beauty in design and durability in service had acquired an enviable reputation.

The Farnham saw mill at the foot of plane B together with the mill of Squire Watres at Mt. Vernon, now Winton, and the sash and blind factory operated by John and Henry Wilkie, at the same place, also added much to the business activity and prosperity of the town.

Many of the changes which followed each other in rapid succession on the west side of the town were mainly due to the openings made in the rich field of anthracite underlying the Hackley estate.

The firm of Eaton and Co., whose good fortune it was to secure an option on this vast field of anthracite had not yet been formed. The individual members of this eminently successful company was each following his accustomed avocation totally unconscious of the great measure of success which was to attend his first venture in coal operations. The late Alvar Eaton, one of the most brainy and energetic men Archbald ever had for a resident, was at this time a track-layer in the mines of the Delaware and Hudson Canal Co., and it can be truthfully said that to the ability, foresight and energy of Mr. Eaton much of the success and prosperity of the firm was due. The late George Simpson, also an active member of this company was at this time a stationary engineer at old No. 1 engine on the bluff above White Oak breaker. The late Edward Jones, then in the employ of the Delaware & Hudson Canal Co., in the capacity of foreman and mine superintendent, together with Dr. Wescott, a resident physician on South Main street composed the company in its entirety.

The first openings were made on the west side during the summer of 1856 and a novel method was adopted for delivering the coal into the cars of the Delaware and Hudson Canal Co. An incline plane running parallel with the openings, was constructed along the hill side. This plane had a double

track. A car was controlled in its descent by a wheel and brake at the head. A weighted truck in its descent was the motive power that drew an empty car on the opposite track alternately to each of the small supply chutes into which the mine cars were dumped at the different openings. This car being loaded somewhat heavier than the truck was permitted to descend to the large chutes in the rear of what is now the Dickson Store. Here the coal was loaded into gravity cars and drawn by horses over a trestling to the foot of No. 1 plane. This trestling crossed the river in front of Jonas Berger's building, the track passing near the residence of P. J. J'Rourke at the foot of Hill street. This plane was continued until the spring of 1859 when the opening of the road to Olyphant brought about changes that were merely but forerunners of still greater ones occasioned by the erection of the coal breaker in 1860. With the advent of the coal breaker and the subsequent waste in the grinding and assorting of the coal into marketable sizes also commenced the piling up of those miniature mountains of culm and other refuse, that so effectually destroys every vestige of rural beauty and has a tendency to shut out the light of day

In those days Main street could boast of having some very extensive general stores. That of Simpson & Shea, where the Dickson Store company is doing business now, Reese & Ustick in the old Hackley building, now the property of Jonas Berger. Thomas Healey in the Healey building, now burned down, and the store and post office in the adjoining building kept by Holmes & Seybolt. In the early spring of 1858 the entire west side of Main street extending from Dr. Ottman's drug store (now P. J. Flannery's hotel) to the German Church was destroyed by fire and in the destruction was included the extensive stores of Peter Walsh and several other buildings. The fire is supposed to have originated in the carelessness of one of the inmates of the Mehl building who usually went to bed accompanied by his constant companion—his pipe. His life paid the penalty of his negligence as his charred remains were afterward recovered from the ruins. On South Main street were also located the only hotels in town. The old Moyles hotel, now occupied by J. J. Newcomb, was the regular stopping place for the stage coach in its daily trips between Carbondale and Wilkes-Barre. The other kept by a man named Cannon, nearly

opposite the site of Healey's old store, was a fair specimen of a first-class country tavern.

Of the changes made along Main street none are more noticeable or shows more marked improvement and advancement than those made along the river front between the Dickson Coal Co's. store and the Presbyterian church. Of the number of prosperous business place located in this vicinity today Foote's Pharmacy alone was in existence even fifty years ago. The restaurant of Frank Kiefer where the hardware store of Wm. Bishop now Mellow & Carricolo stands, the Vossburg meat market and the combined barber shop and tailoring establishment of John Broecker on the present site of the Odd Fellows building, have long since passed away. In fact Main street has been materially improved in its entire length by the erection of buildings upon the many vacant lots and the alterations and improvements made upon the old ones. This same spirit of improvement in the matter of buildings seems to have continued in this particular part of the town, extending as it has to that portion of town which now comprises the second ward. Here regularly laid out streets and comfortable cozy homes have tak-

en the the place of the isolated one story dwelling which at intervals dotted this wooded plain.

Another noticeable feature in our surroundings is the entire obliteration of the straggling settlement made by the hardy, thrifty, law abiding Welsh pioneers on the Ridge. The settlement as we see it to day, has assumed the proportions of a town having a mixed foreign population of more than two thousand souls.

D. & H. Passenger Service.

In the year 1859, the Delaware & Hudson made their first attempt at establishing a passenger service between Carbondale and Providence over their newly constructed railroad.

This experiment was made by fitting up a car of freight car type, a door at either end. Small single pane windows at the sides furnished light and ventilation. This car made at first one trip daily. Although crude in construction this venture was liberally patronized and was soon supplanted by cars of a better type, well designed for the ease and comfort of passengers. This was the beginning of the now superb D. & H. passenger service.

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Our Early Schools

AN INTERESTING ARTICLE FROM THE PEN
OF PROF. JAMES H. WHITE—THE TEACHERS
AND METHODS OF OUR FIRST SCHOOLS.

Archbald people have at all times shown a progressive spirit; but nowhere is this spirit of improvement so marked as in the steady advancement of our schools from the most primitive stage to one fully in line with the exacting requirements of the school laws of Pennsylvania.

If our schools during all those years have been advancing steadily, the progress made was to a great extent re-



PROF. JAMES H. WHITE.

tarded by the obstacles to be overcome and the disadvantage under which we were working. Anyone at all conversant with school methods or management, or who has given the matter any thought or consideration whatever, must admit that in order to secure the best results in education the attendance on the part of the pupil must be regular and not spasmodic. It should be remembered too, that the law provides and intends that all our youths shall be educated to a certain extent and not a portion of them.

In Archbald, as in every other mining town, one great obstacle lies in the fact that the necessities of our people frequently force a large portion of our youth into the mine and breaker instead of the school room.

It is to be regretted that this state of affairs still continues to exist, but is even still further advanced by another heavy drain upon the school room to supply operatives for the mills which are springing up around us.

Another disadvantage under which our schools had been working was the limited accommodations afforded by our old high school building which some forty years ago, was sufficiently large and modern to meet the educational requirements of those days. The curriculum of our public school today embraces many different branches each of which requires for its proper presentation the most modern and improved means of instruction, while the sanitary conditions and environment of the pupils must not be neglected.

Of the high grade of work being done in our schools at present and the outlook for the future, it is scarcely necessary to say a word. Our people know and realize all that can be said along those lines. Suffice it to say that we live in an age that permits no delays nor haltings by the way-side. The march of progress must be continued upward and onward until we have reached an exalted degree of excellence and undoubted proficiency.

To one who is permitted to look back over a period of almost sixty years, as is the case of the writer of this article, he cannot fail to be impressed with the changes that have taken place in the growth and number of our schools and the manner in which they are being conducted. Our boyhood days were spent in Archbald, our earlier instructions were received in those pioneer schools of which I propose to write. Let it be understood that what I say of those early schools is not said in a spirit of railery at their extreme simplicity but rather with feelings of veneration for the efforts put forth by those good teach-

ers who did the very best they could under the circumstances and with the means at hand.

The early days were not very strenuous tunes in educational advancement, although strenuous means were frequently employed by the teacher who was usually a man of heroic mold and questionable temperament. The school room he regarded as his empire and we poor timid pupils as his subject. How well he swayed the rod (not the proverbial rod of empire) over us, all of us who still survive have ample cause to remember.

The first school in Archbald was a private school taught by Miss Elvira Munson, an aunt of General Osborne, of Wilkes-Barre, in 1846. The building in which she taught still stands in front of the Catholic church, the property of Thomas P. Moran. Miss Munson was succeeded by Wright Savage in 1848, who taught but a short time owing to the removal of his family to Dunmore.

The first public school was taught by Alexander Farnham in 1850 in a one-story building on Academy street. The second school building was erected in 1850 and a third in 1855. These were the only school buildings in

Archbald up to 1860. During the ten years, the following persons taught those schools: Messrs A. Farnham, Joyce, Toohey, O'Brien; John Farnham, F. A. Spangenburg, J. J. Curtis, Jeremiah Reagan, Thomas Bonner, John Maghran, Mr. Burton, Mr. Poliss, Patrick Carroll, W. H. Stanton and James Nolan.

Of all these, we know of but three who are living today: Mr. Farnham, who is a successful lawyer in Wilkes-Barre; John Maghran, the well known commercial salesman of Scranton, and James Nolan, a successful farmer of Cherry Ridge, Wayne county. Many of those prior to their death occupied positions of trust and prominence in social, business and literary circles. Before closing this paragraph on the early school of our town, I feel it necessary to call attention to a private school taught in a building afterward owned and used as a residence by Chas. Law. This school was opened in 1858 by Selinas Lewis, a scholar of much attainment.

This school was of an exceedingly high grade. The branches taught were the higher mathematics, English grammar, and rhetoric, Latin, Greek

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ARCHBALD HIGH SCHOOL.

and Hebrew. This school received its students from Carbondale and other towns in North Eastern Pennsylvania. If we remember rightly, Mr. Lewis was an uncle of John R. Jones, prominent attorney of Scranton, now deceased.

Among Mr. Lewis' pupils were: E. A. Garvey, now bishop of the Roman Catholic diocese of Altoona; his brother Dr. J. Garvey, John Reap and John Henahan, of Pittston. He had many pupils in Carbondale also.

In these days, the school laws of 1854 had scarcely got into working order. A county superintendent had

been provided but if his territory was large and his duties onerous, they did not seem to be over exacting as his periods of visitations were "like angels visits, few and far between." Applications for the position of teacher were made directly to the secretary of the board whose duty it was to inquire carefully into the qualifications and fitness of the applicant for the position sought. The matter of selecting a teacher was left entirely in the hands of the secretary and rarely did he make a mistake in the selection.

No great degree of scholarship on the part of the teachers were deemed necessary by the board, although men

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of high scholastic attainments were frequently found filling these positions. The course of study in those days was not a very extensive one. It was mainly included in the three R's "Reading, 'Riting and 'Rithmetic." The text books, were selected by the board, but provided by the pupils. Rarely indeed, did it occur that any one pupil had a full line of text books for even this limited course of study. It is difficult to describe the utter lack of adaptation of the text books to the work in hand.

The early teachers, together with the board of directors, were men of character, men who seemed to fully realize that the quality of the education imparted must depend upon the character of the public schools and the qualifications of the teachers who managed them. What a man is to become, the child must first become in the elements of character and what the child is to become must be determined by the quality of the teaching and training he is to receive. If any portion of the human race is to be raised from the degradation of ignorance, it must be done through the power of wise teaching during the period of childhood and youth. Imbued with such ideas is it any wonder that their efforts were crowned by a measure of success, fully in keeping with the means at hand.

The word method for beginners in reading had not yet come into use. The alphabet was the bed rock foundation upon which the whole structure of educational progress rested.

Whether the change to modern methods has been a change for the better is questionable. It is true however that much good work may be done by either system and vice versa. The first, second and third readers were by different authors. The subject matter was good but the grading was lost sight of. The fourth and highest grade was "The English Reader," a work that would fit in very well in the schools of today as a literary reader. It contained extracts from the orations of Demosthenes, Cicero and Cataline with selections from the English poets and other literary gems. There is one thing however can be said of the schools of the old days, they sent out good spellers, good readers, good penmen and good accountants, four essentials even in our advanced system of education. The few important branches that were taught were taught well and thoroughly.

In 1858 Archbald proper had but

three one storv single room buildings valued at about two thousand dollars. One of them is now the millinery shop of Gilmartin & Moran, which was at that time located in the rear of the Catholic church. Another was one the site of John M. Dougher's on Hill street. The building has long since passed away. The other was on Academy street in the rear of Flannery's hotel. The building is now a dwelling and belongs to the Kinback estate.

In the early sixties the overcrowding of the school necessitated the erection of two additional buildings, one on South Main street, now used as a residence and owned by the late Michael Gilgallon; the other on Cemetery street now the home of the late Patrick McNulty.

Many of those who so ably filled the position of teacher in these schools, have since passed away. A few however are living and filling prominent positions today. Of the good, zealous and unselfish men who as directors worked so presistently for the advancement of education in those early days, not one is living to contemplate the extent to which their earnest efforts have expanded.

Before 1875, when the old high school was built, the schools of the borough were not graded. Each of the three schools had complete and independent branches as were taught in those days. With the erection of the high school, there was a graded system introduced. The first principal was the late Hon P. J. White who taught in the old building from 1875 to 1880. Prof. Shiel of Pittston, deceased, was principal during the term 1880-1. In the latter year the trouble between the Gilroy and the Miller board reached such an acute stage that two separate sets of schools were maintained.

Mr. White was principal for the Gilroy board and he taught for that board in the term 1880-1. In 1881-2, Mr. Shiel was principal for the Miller board, which conducted a school in the building on N. Main street occupied by George Bishop. James H. White, was acting principal for this board during the term of 1882-3 and Miss Margaret Foote during the term 1883-4. P. H. Kearney, now a prominent eye specialist in Scranton, was principal for the Gilroy board from 1881 to 1884 in the old High School building. Prof. R. N. Davis, now curator at the Everhart Museum in Scranton served as principal from 1884 to 1897. In the latter year Prof.

W. A. Kelly succeeded him. Mr. Kelly was made superintendent of the borough schools in 1904. Mr. Kelly is a graduate of the Parsons public school and of Mansfield State Normal School. He taught in Parsons for several years before coming to Archbald.

OTHER EARLY TEACHERS

Several Who Taught Here Beyond Mr. White's Recollections.

From a gentleman whose recollection goes beyond that of this writer we learn that the first teacher, Mr. Savage was assisted by Miss Benjamin of Peckville, a sister of the late Richard Benjamin. She taught here in 1848. Mr. Savage was succeeded by a Mr. Ellis. Another early teacher was Miss Mott, also of Peckville, who taught a private school in a building on the Broderick lot. She came here late in '46. Her niece, whose name is not remembered taught on the Ridge in 1850. John Walsh came here about 1850 and taught in a building located on the Anthony Dougher lot on Hill street. Mr. Chilton taught on Academy street in 1854. Mary A. Kirlwood taught in 1856 in the building on Hill street on lot occupied by Wm Dougher. Miss Wilton of Carbonale taught in the Moran building in '56 and Myron Hall taught there in 1851. Mr. Pearson came here in 1860 and taught in the same building. John Rutledge of Pittston, later of Olyphant, taught in the Gillgallon building on Main street in 1866 and his assistant was Miss Mary Gilroy, later Mrs. A. C. Campbell, now deceased.

The late Hon. P. J. White came here in 1858 and taught for a while in the Moran building. About 1860 he went to Hyde Park. He returned to Archbald in 1867 and taught without interruption until 1880. He taught in many parts of the borough and was first principal of our graded school.

Another teacher of the early 60's was Miss Mary Kearney of Salem street, later Mrs. Michael Donnelly, of Jessup. She taught in the McNulty building on the East Side. Another early teacher in the same building was a Mr. Roach, of Dunmore, father of late Hon. D. M. Roche. Later teachers in that building were Miss Mary Grogan, later Mrs. Peter Cawley and the late John J. Timlin.

THE OLD SCHOOLHOUSE

Tear it, beam and joint and rafter,
Raze it to the earth,
Statlier walls will rise hereafter,
Like a Phoenix birth,
Who would stop the wheels of progress
Must be hard to please,
Let the youth have newer beauties
We have memories.

Quicker than the workmen raze it,
We can build it up
In our heart of heart, and praise it.
Filling Memory's cup;
Simple days of happy childhood,
Dreams of long ago,
These arise like woodland odors
From the waste and woe.

Tear it, beam and joint and rafter
Raze it to the earth,
Statlier walls will rise hereafter,
Like a Phoenix birth;
Fairer walls, but non so sacred
To our hearts, as these,
Tear it down but do not pluck it
From our memories.

DR. JOHN A. FOOTE

Anything You
May Need in the
Line of
Ice Cream,
Candy, Cigars
Tobacco,
Etc.

—o—
**Mrs. Anna
McKeon**
GILMARTIN STREET,

THE OLD GRADED SCHOOL

AFTER THIRTY YEARS OF SERVICE THE STRUCTURE WAS RAZED TO MAKE ROOM FOR THE PRESENT BEAUTIFUL HIGH SCHOOL.

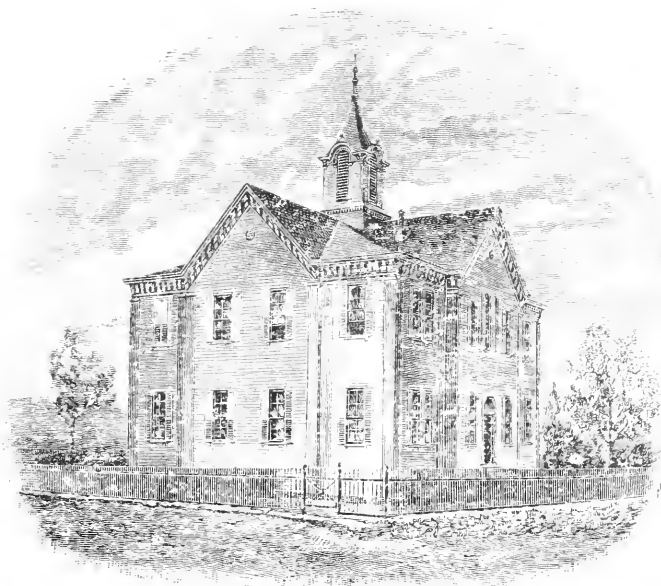
The old graded school building of the Archbald school district was razed in 1905 to make room for the present stately and imposing building. There was more or less sentiment connected with its demolition, for in the old school many of the men of today were educated.

The graded building was erected in 1875. It was built when this town formed a part of Blakely township, and it was the first graded school

from the late John Flynn of Laurel street.

The building was put up by Contractor Flannery, of Dunmore and it was finished in the late Fall of 1875. The first principal of the school was Hon. P. J. White. Other principals succeeding him were: Robert Shiel, deceased of Pittston, R. N. Davis, of Dunmore, and the present superintendent W. A. Kelly.

The directors in office when it was



building in the territory comprised in the district.

It was built only after great opposition on the part of the school directors representing the Olyphant section of the district. Their opposition was eventually overcome and the school board put up what was then considered an excellent building. It cost, with the lot on which it was built, about \$14,000. The lot was bought

erected were: Patrick Boland, president; Anthony Walsh, secretary; John F. Swift, treasurer and Richard and Patrick McHale of Olyphant.

Many men and women prominent here and elsewhere, were educated within the walls of this building. It was a bone of contention during the school troubles of the early 80's when its possession was sought and held by physical force. The old building was bought by A. J. Cawley for \$300.

OLD THEATRICALS

**WHEN EX-JUDGE STANTON PLAYED HAMLET
GREAT ACTORS WERE RARE—"THERE WERE
BUT TWO, FORSOOTH, IN ALL THAT TIME,
THE STAGE'S PRIME; AND THE OTHER ONE
WAS BOOTH."—MANY PLAYS PRODUCED.**

In the early days of coal mining in the anthracite region, the miner was one of the best paid of craftsmen. Trade was brisk and the good wages and steady work attracted a class of workmen, that, in point of education and general intelligence, were far superior to the foreign element that now seeks work in the coal mines. With these conditions, it was not surprising that adventurous professional and business men should consider the coal fields an excellent field for enterprise, and that many of them had left the larger cities and towns to locate in the small, but promising settlements that dotted the Lackawanna and Wyoming valleys.

Archbald was one of the oldest, and in mineral wealth, the richest of these settlements. Few, indeed, of the neighboring communities at that time were blessed with anything like what in the cities is called "society," but Archbald contained a circle of men and women who possessed a taste for literature, music and the drama, and who cultivated and exercised that taste as best as they could with their meagre facilities and forbidding environment. Shut out, though they were, from intercourse with the world by the encircling hills and the evergreen forests, they decided to make a world of their own, and to enjoy in their primitive community those pleasures and refinements which are considered especially the privilege of the dwellers in large cities.

The first move in this direction was made on May 2, 1866, when twenty young men met and organized a dramatic society which they called the Young Men's Institute. Hon. William H. Stanton, of Scranton, now deceased, then of Archbald, who afterwards became a member of Congress, and subsequently judge, was President; M. M. Kearney, now deceased, was Secretary, and Jacob Aliard, was Treasurer. There was al-

so an executive committee consisting of Chas. S. Culver, Theodore M. Miller, Edward W. Carroll, William H. Kearney and Dr. John Foote. The perplexing and diplomatic duty of this committee was to select plays for presentation, and allot the parts to the members of the society. That their path was not always strewn with roses is shown by the fact that three months after organization it was found necessary to insert a clause in the minute book of the society, which gave the majority of the committee absolute power to proceed in the face of grumbling or dissatisfaction on the part of the minority.

Orr's hall, a large, barn-like structure which was situated on South Main street, where the late Henry Pfocr's residence is now located, was the temple where these primitive disciples of Thespis made their first offering. Their first production was the old play "The Drunkard," and to show their familiarity with the legitimate they also gave several scenes from "Hamlet." W. H. Stanton made an excellent Hamlet, but his masterful impersonation of the melancholy Dane was lost on the audience when they saw "Billy" Kearney's very substantial delineation of the Ghost. It seems that Mr. Kearney's ghost was a lively, sprightly creature that was fair of proportion, and that instead of frightening women and making babies cry, this ghost seemed to lend an air of mirth to the otherwise morbid and sanguinary drama. The audience agreed at the close of the performance that with the possible exception of the duel scene, the Ghost scene was the hit of the evening.

But the duel scene was a thrilling and realistic combat. Thomas Law, who is now a resident of Scranton, was Laertes, and proved himself an expert fencer. But for once he was taken off his guard by the fiery and impetuous Hamlet, and he received a

gach on the right hand that was not advertised on the program. The King descended from his throne, secured some sticking plaster from Dr. Foote with which to repair the injury, and the duel was then resumed, with the usual, happy result.

Many other pieces were presented and a performance was given almost every month. Dr. John Foote painted several scenes, and then when they had improved their stage facilities the society was enabled to attempt some more pretentious plays.

To such a degree of perfection did they arrive that in 1867 they journeyed to Carbondale and gave a week's performance at the Court house, as Carbondale had no opera house. They carried their scenery and stage properties with them and gave a change of bill nightly. Some of the plays they presented there were "The Drunkard," "Maurice, the Woodcutter," "The Irish Exile," "Handy Andy," "Solon Shingle," "Turn Him Out," "Bombastes Furioso." That the people of the Pioneer city enjoyed and appreciated their performances is shown by the fact that the company netted \$141.35 from the week's work.

The organization continued in a flourishing condition until 1869, when

Ort's hall containing all their property was destroyed by fire. Some time later it was re-organized under the name of "The Archbald Institute" and for many years this organization was a source of entertainment and culture to the community. Swift's hall was their theatre and a stage was erected by the late Henry Wilkie containing all the mechanical contrivances of the modern stage, and a full set of scenery painted by Dr. Foote. Many really meritorious performances were given there, and the repertoire of the company included the best productions of the English dramatists, as well as many pieces adapted from the French.

Of the original members of the old Young Men's Institute but a few remain with us. Some have moved away to busier communities and have been rewarded with the success after which they strove, and some have received the final summons to make their exit from the stage of Life and receive judgment on the manner in which they played their "many parts." The few that are amongst us are to be envied, for their's was the joy of living in the Archbald of the olden time before the woodman's axe and the miner's pick had seared and blackened her beautiful verdure-clad hills.

Hotel Metropole

C. F. REEDY PROP.

WAYNE STREET, ARCHBALD, PA.



Fell Beer
Always on Tap

They are to be envied, for to-day the dreamy silence of the mountain, the awesome mystery of the forest, and its spectral shadows that flitted through the sombre aisles of pine and fir and seemed to whisper in whiffs of fragrant balsam, so sweet to the simple dwellers of the valley—all have changed or vanished before the march of progress and industry.

The financial secretary's book which was left in the hands of the last secretary, D. J. Gilmartin gives the original roll of members of the society as follows: John Foote, M. D., M. M. Kearney, Jacob Ballinger, Edward Carroll, Wm. H. Stanton, William H. Kearney, Daniel Gilmartin, Charles Culver, James H. White, William Gilmartin, Thomas Gilmartin, Patrick Gilmartin, George Eaton, Thomas Law, Baltasar Alliard, John Corcoran, William Gilgallon, Patrick H. Gilgallon, Theodore M. Miller and Thomas Malone, Miss Marie Kearney, the late Mrs. Donnelly, of Jessup, Miss Cassie Atkinson, who became Mrs. Quinn and removed to one of the western states and Miss Carrie Miller who is now Mrs. Wm. Calloway, of Scranton, appear on the book as honorary members.

THE OLD F. M. OPERA HOUSE

For many years the old Father Mathew hall, now occupied by the Novelty Theater, was practically the only opera house here, the hall having been built largely for the purpose. It was opened on November 10, 1882 with a performance of "A Celebrated Case" which has been recently revived in New York. The cast was made up largely of those who figured in the old Dramatic Institute and of those who participated in the opening performance only T. A. White, P. C. Gilmartin, W. H. Blake, Mrs. Clarence Samon, Mrs. John O'Rourke and Mrs. J. W. Beck are living to-day. The last performance was given September 23, 1903 by the Burke-McCann Co. Later the building was occupied by the Archbald Silk Co. At present it is owned by the Cawley estate and used as a Nicketet.

A welcome visitor here in the 70's and 80's was the "Dublin Dan Company with John M. Burke in the title role. Other prominent members of the Company were Annie F. Irish, William Ashton and Harry F. Hall. Their performances were usually given in Moyles' hall, which has since been converted into a dwelling.

HOTEL SWIFT

M. J. SWIFT, Prop.

CHURCH STREET.



Wines, Liquors
and Cigars

VALLEY HOUSE

MAIN STREET.



JOSEPH
MELLOW
Prop.

IN THE CIVIL WAR

THE MEN WHO WENT TO THE FRONT IN '61— HOW THE WAR NEWS WAS RECEIVED HERE.

Archbald since it became a town was prompt to respond to calls for the defense of the national government in time of war. Her sons have always stood ready to "gird their loins for fight" when the interests of our country required it. The town was just coming into existence when the war with Mexico broke out but hostilities did not last long and there was no great need of volunteers. Nevertheless, one of our citizens took part in that struggle. John Hess, "fought his country's battles" way down in Mexico" and he lived there for many years after the war ended.

When the war for the extinction of slavery broke out, there was a strong opposition sentiment here. In those days the township (it then formed a part of Blakely) was strongly Democratic. The temporizing policy of Buchanan's administration found many supporters because a majority of the people were Democratic and the administration was of the same political faith. The people had no sympathy with slavery, however. Many of them were exiles from a system that, in some respects, resembled the evil in the South and they did not cross the ocean to encourage any movement that was intended to perpetuate it. They disliked to desert their party, they stuck to it until war had actually begun, and many of them remained Democrats until long after the war ended.

But all the Democrats were not opponents of the strong policy of Lincoln. Indeed, when the crisis came they went to the front with the same alacrity as did many of their fellow-citizens of other political views. When Fort Sumter was fired on and President Lincoln issued his call for 75,000 volunteers so many of our young men responded that it was not possible to make room for them all, the number

allotted to Pennsylvania being full.

The list of Archbaldians who responded to the call to save the Union is as complete as it is possible to make it. It is as follows: Owen Flaherty, James Pidgeon, Deidrich Dusenbrook, Wm. Gilroy, Peter McAndrew, John Lally, John Brogan, Michael Dunn, John White, Francis Boland, John Burke, P. J. Coolican, Bryan, Flaherty, Henry Linderman, John Law, Conrad Bachman, Elias Pfoor, Conrad Schifler, James Hadley, Frank Shannon, James McGrail, Henry Neimayer, C. C. Battenberg, H. C. Miller, Nathan B. Brown, Nelson La Rose, Owen Moyles, Conrad Grabb, Joseph Ollendyke, August Zimmermann, Thomas Dougherty, Patrick Hunt, Wilnot Vail, Henry Welch, Thomas Madone, James Nicholson, Patrick Duffy, Frederick Eaton, Preston Eaton, Henry Zimmerman, Charles Culver, Reese Williams, Patrick McDonnell, Patrick Gallagher, Patrick Walsh, John Stanton, Dennis Smith and John Biglin.

During the years of the Civil War it is worthy of note how quickly the news of battles fought and authentic lists of the killed, wounded and missing were published. The Philadelphia papers were relied on most especially the Inquirer, this paper having special correspondents with every Pennsylvania regiment, who promptly reported all losses.

We remember distinctly how the news of the assassination and death of President Lincoln was received and circulated on the morning of April 15 1865. Although the morning was a rainy one the news spread in a short time to every part of the town.

Horror at the dastardly act of the assassin and a heartfelt sorrow for the martyred president were heard on every side.



THE GLACIAL POT-HOLE

THE GREAT WORK OF NATURE IN ARCHBALD THE LARGEST IN THE WORLD—HOW THE MARVELOUS NATURAL CURIOSITY WAS FORMED AND HOW DISCOVERED BY A MINER.

In the golder summertime there is no more popular place in this locality than the Glacial Pot-hole at the (Ridge) Eynon. Scarcely a season passes that does not ring its quota of visitors to the great marvel of nature. Nor is this surprising in view of the fact that the Archbald Pot-hole is the largest in the world, surpassing in size even the more noted pot-holes of Switzerland and other parts of the world. It is so long since it was discovered and so few know how geologists account for its formation that the brief sketch given herewith will have at least an instructive value.

The pot-hole is located on the Hackley track in this borough. It was discovered in April 1883 by Patrick Mahady a miner employed by Jones Simpson & Co. The men were opening a chamber in an airway and they struck the pot-hole after discharging a blast. They immediately reported to the operators that they had found an outcrop, but the latter knew this could not be so and continued to prosecute work at that point. Large round stones and gravel began to pour into the mine, and after removing great quantities of this the rim of the hole was found. The pot hole was then bratticed and used as an air shaft. Negotiations were begun for the purchase of the ground surrounding the pot-hole. Col. Hackley the owner, declined to sell, but he appropriated \$500 for the preservation of the pot-hole in the interests of science. A substantial stone wall was built around the hole and the grounds were otherwise improved under the direction of the late Edward Jones, an enthusiastic student of geology who was particularly interested in this pot-hole because it was uncovered by some of his employees.

Soon after the discovery of this another and larger pot-hole was found about 950 feet to the northeast. This has not been uncovered because of the effect it would have on the mine

which is still in operation. There are other but much smaller holes in other parts of the borough, especially along White Oak creek, but the one uncovered at the Ridge is the most important of all.

The pot-hole is at the foot of a precipitous, wooded hill. The hole is not round. The shape is rather more oblong, and the walls are worn smooth. The depth is about forty-five feet; its greatest diameter is twenty feet and its least diameter is eighteen feet. When it was discovered it was practically filled with stones varying in weight from a few grains to twenty pounds. They were worn almost perfectly round.

In the winter of 1883 Jones, Simpson & Co., informed State Geologist J. P. Lesley of the discovery of the pot-hole, and in a letter in reply Mr. Lesley said.

"The Archbald discovery is a fine case of a well known phenomenon called a glacial pot-hole. There is a public garden in the city of Lucerne, Switzerland, where five or six of these are kept open for the amusement and instruction of the public. When they were cleaned out, a number of the rounded stones (some of large size) were left in them so that people could see how the holes were made.

The glaciers of the Jungfrau, Witterhorn and other mountains once flowed down over the city of Lucerne and far out into the plain of Switzerland, and even reached the Jura mountains a hundreds miles distant. This was in the cold age of the world, immediately preceding the appearance of mankind.

All the Alpine glaciers have now shrunk back into the higher valleys, leaving behind them millions of rocks of all kinds on the surface, however, some of those stones were kept rolling round and round by the melting waters.

ers.

The traveler on any of the Alpine

glaciers has an opportunity to see how these holes were made, because similar ones are being made today. The surface of a glacier melts under the hot sunshine, flows over the surface of the ice and plunges into crevices to the low bed of the valley down which the glacier is moving. These waterfalls make deep pot-holes wherever they keep rocks twirling round in depressions of the valley bed.

When a pot-hole is finished by a change in the location of the water fall, it gets filled with smaller rounded boulders, gravel and sand. If there were any horizontal coal beds not far underneath the bed of an Alpine valley such a coal bed would be sure to have one or more glacial pot-holes in it, perhaps going clear through it, filled with gravel.

Now in that cold age, Canada, New

England, New Jersey and Northern New York and Northern Pennsylvania down to a line stretching from Olean through Ralston, Berwick and Eckley to Belvidere and Amboy, were entirely covered with a solid continuous sheet of ice in some places 3,000 feet thick (in New Hampshire 6,000 feet) moving southward carrying rocks of all kinds and sizes, plowing and scratching the surface of the country, and making pot-holes of various depths from 10 to 70 and 80 feet, most of which are now concealed by a thick covering of drift, that is, the gravel, sand and clay which the ice, carried forward as it advanced, and left behind it when it melted.

"Many of these pot-holes have been accidentally uncovered (like yours) and have always been found filled with gravel of a foreign origin, no



THE GLACIAL POT HOLE.

matter what the formation was in which the pot-hole was excavated. In some, exposed by cutting a mill race west of Albany, the bones of a mammoth were found mixed with gravel.

"We have calculated the thickness of the ice where it moved over Stroudsburg, in Monroe county, at about 1,500 feet. It was deep enough to cross the Kittatinny mountains at Delaware Water Gap, where it has left on the top of the mountains large masses of limestone torn off from the outcrop in Godfrey's ridge, near Stroudsburg, and therefore carried up by the ice a thousand feet. The ice was thick enough to move over the great highlands of the Pocono Mountain between Scranton and Stroudsburg more than 2,000 feet above the sea. I have no doubt that the ice at Archbald was at least \$2,000 feet thick and it carried fragments of your coal itself from some of your exposed outcrops (exposed at that time, but covered up with drift now) from the bottom of the Lacawanna Valley to the top of Bald Mountain, and that they now be scattered over the wilderness highland of the headwaters of the Lehigh River and that they will be discovered there if ever railroad or other cuttings were

made through the drift ridges on that table land.

"It would be well worth your while to examine closely the cuts along the line of the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad for bits of anthracite coal and conglomerate which have been carried from Carbondale and Archbald and left there by the ice.

"Your discovery happens to be one of the very finest illustrations of the subject which we have had the good fortune to encounter."

When the pot-hole was discovered the stones and gravel it contained rested on a cone of coal. Mine Foreman James M. Eaton's attention was called to it and he ordered the miner to blast the coal. When this was done the stones came tumbling into the airway with such an awful roar that the miners who had gathered near thought the mountain was coming in on them. Some of them left the mine, so frightened were they. The debris that filled the pot-hole was removed by a gang of men under the direction of the late Hon. M. M. Gilroy. Souvenirs of the discovery in the shape of round stones were very common here and are still preserved in many homes in town.

Hotel Flannery

P. J. FLANNERY, Prop.

WINES

LIQUORS

AND CIGARS

MAIN STREET.

BURYING THE DEAD.

How It Was Done in Archbald in the Early Days.

There were few people in the town who knew more about its early history than did the late Jacob Ritter. While he was not engaged in guarding the majesty of the law, as tipstaff, a position he held until death claimed him, Mr. Ritter spent all his time within the shadow of his own vine and fig tree. When he was in a reminiscent mood there was nothing more delightful than his talk about old times. A funeral passing his home one day recalled the burial customs that prevailed here in the early days and prompted him to speak of the changes time had made even in our treatment

of the dead. "When I came here," said Mr. Ritter, "there was no such thing as a hearse in this part of the valley and there were no great preparations made for a funeral. When anyone died it was the custom to go to a carpenter or coffin maker and have a box made large enough to hold the body of the deceased. In town the principal coffin maker was August Miller, the father of the well known Miller family who later started the Jermyn Coffin and Casket factory. In those days people were not in the habit of paying high prices for coffins. You could get a pretty good one for six or seven dollars and for one made of fine hardwood you would pay ten or twelve dollars and there wouldn't be much fancy work on it either, but it served just as well as the expensive caskets of today."

THE STORES
THAT TREAT
YOU RIGHT

Clarke

B r o s .

Stores

The Stores That Turn Pass
Books Into Bank Books

"Of course everybody held a wake for two or three days and everybody else considered it a duty to pay respect to the dead. In those days there was the best of feeling between people of every class and as the number of people in the town was small everybody went to the funeral. The funeral was very much the same then as it is now except that every man in the procession was a pall-bearer. When the corpse was taken to church or to the grave yard the coffin rested on a bier, resembling a stretcher, with four handles. A man took hold of each handle and carried the body a certain distance. Then the four men at the head of the procession halted until the bier reached them and they took hold and carried it until they reached the next four. So it went until the graveyard was reached, the number of pall-bearers depending on the distance from the home to the cemetery. I have seen two and three dozen serve at a funeral.

"This way of carrying the dead to the grave was kept up until pretty near war times. Then a man named Cameron from Carbondale came here with a hearse. The first person to be

taken to the grave in it was Mrs. John White. Of course only one was needed to introduce a custom that was more convenient than the old way and after a while everybody had the undertaker and his hearse."

THE FIRST BURGLARY

An Event in the Early Days That Created Considerable Excitement—\$10,000 Stolen.

During the years of the Civil war the first burglary of any account occurred. The money intended for the payment of the employees at the Eaton and company, mines was taken from the office safe during the night preceding the regular pay day.

The burglar forced an entrance and secured about ten thousand dollars. There were no time locks in those days and the work of fitting a key to the lock in use was a simple matter. Detectives were employed to investigate the matter but failed to incriminate any one. The loss of the money however delayed the payment of the men a few hours.

A complete line of Candy,
Cigars and Tobacco

ICE CREAM

John L. Hevers

JAMES ARCHBALD

FIRST MAYOR OF CARBONDALE AFTER WHOM THIS TOWN WAS NAMED—SKETCH OF A PIONEER WHO WAS A BUILDER OF BIG THINGS

Hon. James Archbald, after whom this borough is named, was born in Ayshire, Scotland, March 3, 1793. His father was one of the staunch yeomanry peculiar to Scotland of that time, a man of few words, but much thought. His mother was descended from Robert Wodrow, a famous Scotch divine in a stormy period of Scottish history. When twelve years old young James came to America with his father and settled in the Mohawk valley of central New York. He followed lumbering and trading. During all this time he studied diligently and became quite accomplished in a literary and artistic way. He was a musician of some distinction in his day.

He became a contractor about the time the Erie canal was built and made a section of that great water way. His work was so well and honestly done that he attracted the attention of the chief engineer of the canal, John B. Jervis, who offered him a position with the engineering corps. He accepted and when, in 1825 Mr. Jervis was given charge of the Delaware & Hudson railroad, Mr. Archbald was employed on it. In 1829 he was elected superintendent of the newly opened mines of the company at Carbondale and from that date until the time of his death, he resided in this valley almost constantly.

In 1837 Mr. Archbald was offered the position of engineer in charge of the enlargement of the Erie canal between Troy and Utica which he accepted. He remained away from Car-

bondale only a short time, he having returned to take charge of their road at the earnest solicitation of the Delaware & Hudson company.

In 1847 Mr. Archbald had charge of the construction of the railroad of the Pennsylvania Coal Co., between Pittston and Hawley. About this time, also, he was chosen Mayor of Carbondale, which office, he filled with great satisfaction for four successive terms, or until he left that city.

In 1854 he was chosen vice-president of the Michigan Southern and Northern Indiana railroad of which road he assumed personal charge. At this time he ended his relations with the Delaware and Hudson railroad. He remained in the west only a year when he again returned to this region.

Soon after his return from the West he succeeded Hon. G. W. Scranton as general agent of the D. L. & W. railroad. About this time he moved from Carbondale to Scranton. From 1858 until his death Mr. Archbald held the positions of President of the Lackawanna and Bloomsburg railroad and chief engineer of the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad. Mr. Archbald died in Scranton, August 26, 1870. His son is Hon. R. W. Archbald, of Scranton. The construction of the gravity planes over the Moosic Mountains were long the admiration and wonder of people in this section of the State. They were constructed under Mr. Wurts' supervision and they admirably served the purpose of the Delaware & Hudson company for more than fifty years.



EARLY NEWSPAPERS

Journalism in Archbald Past and Present.

Two things come forcibly to the mind of everyone, who by reason of long and continued residence in the town, is enabled to indulge in recollections of Archbald as it appeared fifty years ago. The first of these is in the general topography of the place. The other is the changes which time has wrought in the inhabitants.

During the first fourteen years of our existence as a town, each succeeding year brought but few sudden or important changes in either the appearance of the town or the fortunes of the people. Content to pursue the "even tenor of their way," undisturbed by even a spasmodic thrill of fictitious energy, even at the close of a year of unprecedented financial depression and stagnation in all the avenues of trade and business activity we find the people contented, happy and fairly prosperous. It was not until the spring of 1858 when the Delaware and Hudson Canal company commenced the extension of their Gravity railroad to Olyphant that the

beneficent effects of a real, genuine, industrial boom were first felt. During this year the entire line of double track extending from plane A in Archbald to plane G in Olyphant was completed, giving employment to a large number of men and materially increasing the population. This sudden and much needed impetus given to industrial pursuits was of lasting benefit. By it new lines of employment were thrown open to the people, improved facilities for the mining and shipment of coal were devised and put into successful operation which marked the beginning of an era of unprecedented growth and prosperity. It is only when we take into consideration the primitive methods employed up to this time and by a careful comparison of the same with those afterwards introduced, that we can fully understand and readily account for the great change in both place and people.

In 1858 Archbald was only a hamlet having but a few hundred population, nesting cosily among verdant hills and shady valleys; a forest of pine and hemlock stretching away in an unbroken line from Salem road to Mount Vernon, a forest whose stillness remained unbroken by the sound

Hill Street Hotel

JOE TOKARZ, Prop.

Hill Street, Archbald



Wines Liquors
and Cigars

May "Old
Home
Week"
Bring to You
and Yours
Pleasures
That Will
Never Be
Forgotten.

SUCH IS THE WISH OF

Samter Bros.

CO.

SCRANTON, PA.

Outfitters for Men and
Boys for Over 43 Years.

of steam whistle or toll of vesper bell.

Even in those early days the educational interests of the people were amply provided for by the maintenance of three public schools. These schools had a total enrollment of about one hundred and fifty pupils and were under the control of a board of directors usually composed of the best educated men in the district; this quality of education being absolutely necessary, inasmuch as the school board were the sole judges of the teacher's fitness and qualification for the work, and these arduous duties were usually well performed.

That great factor in education: the daily newspaper (which frequently educates in a wrong direction) was at this time an unknown quantity to the residents of this valley. The people seemed satisfied with what news they could glean from the columns of a few weekly papers among which we remember the Carbondale Advance, the Lackawanna Register, and the Boston Pilot, to which may be added the New York Ledger, famous in those days as a story paper. It was many years afterward that Archbald had a paper distinctively its own.

The first attempt to establish a newspaper was made in the early six-

ties when Fred Goehrs of Goehr's Hill having had some experience as an apprentice in a printing office, conceived the idea of establishing not only a first class local paper but also an extensive printing establishment. Fred, after securing an option on what he considered a suitable place in which to locate the plant ordered his presses type, and other paraphernalia. This was actually shipped to Archbald, but upon its arrival here the would-be journalist was not over-burdened with money and the outfit was shipped back to New York, as sufficient funds were not available to even pay the freight charges. The disappointment to his dreams and aspirations was more than Fred could bear, so he immediately left the scenes of his childhood and was a stranger to Archbald evermore.

During the succeeding twenty years several efforts to establish a permanent newspaper were made but all were fore-doomed to failure. One of these "creatures" of intellect the writer has especially in mind. It was the work of a few ambitious gentlemen of decided literary ability. I think their product was known as the Archbald News. The entire paper except a "patent inside"—and by-the-way that

GOOD CLEAN HONEST DEALING

A desire to please everybody.

Every customer a satisfied customer
that's the policy of this store.

MEN'S BOYS' AND YOUNG
MENS' FURNISHINGS

Everything you buy here is worth
what you pay for it.

Gene Kearney

innovation was just then coming into general use—was the work of Archbald talent. The news and editorial matter were written here, but the copy was converted into type and the paper was printed in Scranton. While the News lasted it was an entertaining sheet, but the patronage it received was not sufficient to justify continuous publication and it died an early and untimely death.

The next attempt to establish a paper was made in 1882 when a few persons who believed that a local paper and printing office had become a real necessity, brought out the first numbers of the Truth. The paper was printed in a small building on Hill street on a hand press and it continued to grow and prosper to such an extent that its projectors, in a short time, determined to seek a wider field of usefulness. The entire plant was removed to Scranton where it prospered for a time as a weekly paper. From this sprung the Scranton Truth for many years one of the most widely read and influential daily newspapers in the state.

Archbald, after the departure of the Truth was without a home paper until a Mr. Gould appeared on the

scene in 1894 with the Archbald Bee. Having had considerable experience as a journalist, he no doubt concluded that by carefully avoiding the rocks and shoals he might succeed in Archbald where others had failed. It is to be regretted that his well laid plans came to naught. A cyclone of adversity struck the second weekly issue of the paper and thus the Archbald Bee passed into oblivion.

Early in the spring of 1894 the late A. F. McNulty, a man of considerable literary attainments and journalistic ability, in partnership with Miss Nellie O'Donnell, seeing that Archbald presented an opening for a local paper, came here for the purpose of looking over the field. Basing his convictions on the fact that the people of Archbald were a reading community and would therefore be likely to patronize a paper devoted exclusively to their interests, he accordingly, after the expenditure of much capital and labor succeeded in establishing the Archbald CITIZEN on a permanent and paying basis, a venture that would have proven eminently successful had not his career been cut short by the cruel hand of death. Called away at a time when his services were most

SUITS, SHOES, TIES, UNDERWEAR, HATS, SOCKS, ETC.

Our store is stocked with a complete and up-to-date line of goods.

The store that can Suit you.

BERGER'S

THE HOME OF GOOD CLOTHES

valuable to the paper, it is no wonder that his loss to the paper was almost irreparable.

In the fall of 1898 the ownership of the CITIZEN passed to P. A. Philbin, he having purchased it from the heirs of Hon. A. F. McNulty. The first issue under Mr. Philbin's control came from the press on October 1898. He conducted the paper until May 1909 when he sold the plant to W. D. McHale and F. A. Lally, the present proprietors. Since they assumed ownership the office was moved from the old building on Church street, where it had been published since 1894 to a building on Main street which had been specially built for it. The office is now one of the best equipped in the county, having a Mergenthaler linotype machine and presses and equipment competent to do almost any kind of printing.

ARCHBALD, THE SITE OF AN INDIAN VILLAGE

Many years before white settlements were made in Wyoming Valley, a well defined path or trail extended from the Indian villages in Wyoming

to the Indian villages of the Delaware Valley where Milford, Pike county now stands. This patch or trail was along the Lackawanna through the Capouse village at Scranton to Archbald, thence across the Moosic Mountains to the Paupack river through what is now Hawley, to the villages at Milford the county seat of Pike county. Many of the settlers here to-day can well remember a circular space near the Suspension bridge now known as the Mount Vernon section or "stump field" from which all traces of tall trees had been removed, not even a stump remaining. Dr. Hollister, one of the early historians of the Lackawanna valley assured the writer, that on this spot stood an Indian village which marked the end of the first day's journey which furnished shelter and rest to those making the journey from Wyoming and the villages in the Delaware Valley at Milford. This statement rests entirely upon tradition, still it has distinctive features that bring it well within the scope or range of probability. The clearing was made there long before the days of the first white settlers. The question is "Who made it?" We have given the explanation as we have received it.

BUY
SMITH'S
ICE CREAM

EARLY SETTLERS.

The Names of Those Who First Came Here.

The early records of the town are so very meagre, that it is an extremely hard task to get a complete list of the first settlers in what is now the town of Archbald. From the means at hand the following list has been made up and it is useful as showing, if not all, at least a very large percentage of the early settlers. The settlement on what is now Rock and Hill streets, was exclusively Irish, although a few Germans came here as early as 1846. During the next few years there was a considerable influx of Welsh and English and they settled on the low tract between the foot of Hill street and White Oak creek. Nearly all the first houses on that tract were built by this class of settlers. Most of them left here before the Civil War and today there are none of them on the tract.

In the late 70's a number of Bohemian settlers came to the town and lived chiefly in the vicinity of

Goer's hill. When the government opened up the rich lands of Nebraska and Kansas to homesteaders, nearly all these Bohemians went West and today there are none of them here.

The settlers in the town (exclusive of the Ridge) in 1845-6-7, as far as we have been able to ascertain them, are as follows:

1845—Patrick Gilmartin, Philip Sherry, Frank Healy.

1846—John Corwin, James Nicholson, John Nicholson, James Nicholson, Jr., Enoch Siddon, Patrick Dolphin, Conrad Lorenz, Dudley Cougalin, Michael O'Neill, Richard Jordan, Henry Rogers, Thomas Swift, John Ferguson, Daniel O'Hara, Mark Melvin Hon. Patrick Kearney, Thomas McLaughlin, Patrick Moran, Patrick McGuire, Henry Mackey, John Rodgers, Patrick Kearney, later of Laurel street, Michael Gilroy, Richard Gilroy, William Gilroy, John Gilroy, Edward Craig, Bernhardt Wagner, John Hosie, Alver Eaton, George Simpson.

1847—John Hofsommer, Michael Spellman, John Spangenburg, Michael Murphy, James Murphy, Michael Swift, John McCaffrey, Thomas McAndrew, Roger Finnerty, Michael Scanlon, John Scanlon, James Bar-

Nolan & Moran

Groceries and Provisions



Main Street

lett, Peter Wiltz, James Hennaigan, William Lynott, Peter Hunt, Alexander Sweeney, James Corcoran, Martin Geary, Patrick Clarke, Thomas Martin, Patrick Moran, 2nd, John O'Hara, Brian Gaughan, Michael Gaughan, Sr., Patrick Coleman, John Moran, Anthony Coyne, Thomas Loftus, Patrick Kearney, (later of Chestnut street,) Dominick Dougherty, John Meyl, Peter Propst, Michael O'Boyle, Thomas O'Boyle, Anthony O'Boyle, Anthony O'Horo, Patrick Dougher, Anthony Dougher, Edward Flaherty, Patrick Scanlon, Martin Nealon, William McAndrew, Michael Masterson, John Dougher, Martin Dougher, Frank Dougher, George Wallace, Tom Sayers, Jacob Shearer, Anthony McLaughlin, Patrick McAndrew, John Walsh, Patrick White, John White, Martin Holmes, Thomas Boland, David Middleton.

The first house on the hill in the present Third ward, was built in 1846 and is now a part of the home of Thomas McHae. It was built as a residence for Thomas Sayers, a stationery engineer in the service of the Delaware & Hudson company. Another early house was built on the site of the Thomas Scott home. John

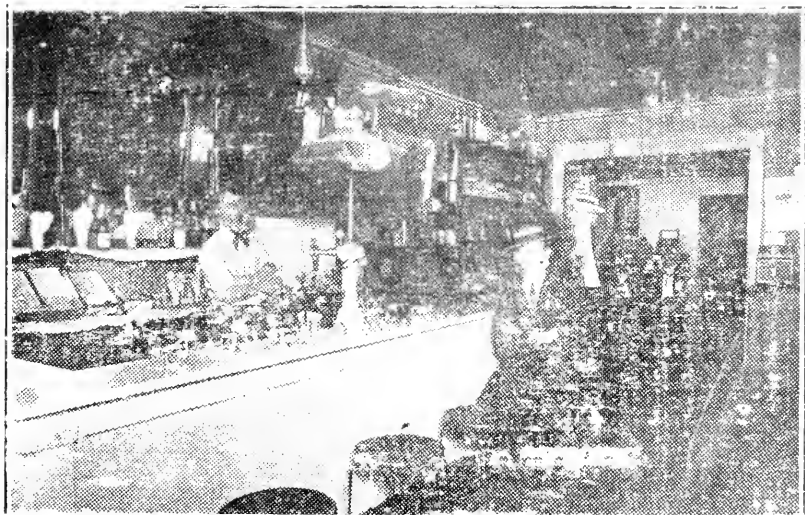
J. Swift, the first child born to the early settlers, first saw the light at what was known as the "Great Western," in a house built in a clearing near the Powder Mill.

The first bridge in the town was built on the site of the present Gilmartin street bridge, and it was the only means of crossing the Lackawanna in the town.

Archbald borough was divided into three wards in 1879.

The first Justices of the Peace of the borough of Archbald were Edward Carroll and P. J. White. The first high constable was James Gilroy.

Naturally business followed in the footsteps of the pioneers and within a few years the village became quite prosperous in a business sense. The first store was opened here in 1847 by Howell & Law. This was built at Gilmartin's corner. Other early storekeepers were: Snyder and Taylor, at Butler's corner in 1848, Peter Walsh 1848, West's store on the present site of Ecote's Pharmacy, 1848. Osborne & Spencer at M. J. Swift's, 1848; Patrick Gilmartin 1850, Patrick Kearney, 1850, Daniel O'Hara, 1851, Dolphin, Coyne and Ferguson, 1851, Dolphin & Jordan in 1851 and Thomas Healey, in 1854.



J. J. BRENNAN
Ice Cream, Candy, Cigars

SUCCESSFUL BUSINESSMEN

MERCHANTS OF THE TOWN WHO PROSPERED IN THE EARLY DAYS OF ARCHBALD BOROUGH—PORTRAITS AND BRIEF SKETCHES OF A FEW OF THEM.

It is worthy of note that many of the sons of the sturdy settlers of fifty years ago are today found among the most successful business men of Archbald, notably Cawley Brothers, who are today conducting the large department stores, founded by their father, Martin Cawley some years ago. John Co. as a telegraph operator and station agent he retired to engage in the mercantile business. He conducted a large general store to the time of his death a few years ago.

The late Justus Bishop was one of Archbald's most enterprising business men for many years. He was the



MARTIN CAWLEY.

Kraft of Main street, also succeeded his father in the grocery trade and is now one of our prosperous merchants.

Mr. A. V. Gerbig was one of the pioneer settlers, a harness maker by trade, for many years was engaged in the saddle and harness business. Mr. Gerbig was also an expert accountant and was for a time in the stores of Peter Walsh. After a long service with the Delaware and Hudson



JUSTUS BISHOP.

founder of the extensive hardware store and plumbing establishment on Main street. Mr. Bishop was also prominent as an investor in many other enterprises. The late Patrick McDonnell, John M. Dougher and John Timlin are among the number who were successful business men more than thirty years ago.





A. V. GERBIG.



PETER KRAFT.

Henry Revels

Contractor and Builder



Paints, Brushes and Hardware
Plans and Specifications
Estimates on Application



ARCHBALD PA.

The Roberts Lumber and Realty Co.

Lumber, Mill Work, Sash
Doors, Moulding and Interior
Trim at Wholesale and Re-
tail.

Special attention given to
Contractors' and Architects'
Estimates.

Prompt Service and Right
Prices.

Get In Touch With Us.

YARD AND OFFICE:
707 River Street
PECKVILLE, PA.

ARCHBALD CHURCHES

Facts Concerning the Early Places of Worship.

The earliest church here was the First Welsh Calvinist Methodist church, which was organized at the Ridge by Rev. John Davis in 1834. A building was erected in 1848 at which he conducted services until his death in 1866. The building is still standing.

The first church in Archbald was St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic church, built in 1850 a mission church in charge of Father Fitzsimmons of Carbondale parish. Previous to this time services were held once a month at the residence of the late Patrick Kearney and later on in the home of Patrick Gilmartin. Archbald had no resident pastor until the appointment of Rev. Father McSwiggan in 1855. This church, although a small one, seemed to meet all the requirements of the parish for ten years, when it became necessary to enlarge it. A large addition was built and the original build-

MEATS GROCERIES PROVISIONS



**HENNER
and
KRIEGER**

Fifty-Five Years

OF SATISFACTORY DRUG SERVICE TO THE
PEOPLE OF ARCHBALD.

Your father and your grandfather came here for their medicine.

Ours is among the pioneer drug stores of this region. It is one of the oldest in the region.

But it is not old-fashioned.

Always improving, adding new appliances, adopting new methods, everything to advance the art of Pharmacy—we keep abreast of the times.

We are thankful to the old residents who have had confidence in us these many years past and hope that they will live to enjoy many more Old Home Weeks.

Foote's Pharmacy

Established 1860

ing remodeled in 1862 under the supervision of Richard Benjamin, of Blakely. Archbald was never a fertile field for the exploitation of the various new and modernized churches which sprung up in other parts of the country. Our churches today are the same in number and the same in teaching as they were sixty years ago. This speaks well of the sincerity of the people in the matter of their religious belief.

In the year of 1870 Rev. John Louggran began work on the magnificent Roman Catholic church, St. Thomas Aquinas of today. The corner stone was laid in 1873 and the church was dedicated in August 1875. It cost originally, \$58,000. The Lutherans had a church here, where the boiler house of the old White Oak colliery now stands. It was built in the early fifties and was burned in 1858. Rebuilt and again burned in 1863. Soon after the present brick edifice was built.



Last Coal From Eatons.

The last ton of coal was drawn from the pockets of the old Eaton breaker of Jones, Simpson & Co., on October 15, 1893. Henry Lorenz, of South Main street, now foreman of the Raymond colliery took the coal out of the breaker. A year later, the breaker was partially destroyed by fire and then it was razed entirely. The large high brick stack at the fire room is yet standing, and is in good condition.

Mrs. Pickard, a Pioneer.

The lady who has the honor of being the longest resident of the town is Mrs. Mary Pickard, widow of the late Thomas Pickard, of Hill street. Mrs. Pickard came here with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Roger Flaherty in 1846, the year after Mr. Gilmartin came. Mrs. Pickard is still hale and hearty, and rejoices that she has lived to participate in the present celebration.



Butler's

Archbald Furniture House



WHERE YOU WILL FIND A STOCK OF
FURNISHINGS THAT WILL PLEASE YOU.

— WE TREAT YOU RIGHT —

Linoleums, Rugs, Bedding

Our Specialty.

BUTLER'S ARCHBALD FURNITURE HOUSE.

"OLD HOME" OPENING.

The Excellent Address of Pioneer, Daniel J. Gilmartin.

The "Old Home Week," celebration was opened promptly at midnight Sunday when Burgess James F. Kearney amid the blowing of whistles, the ringing of bells and shooting of fireworks, turned affairs over to the Board of Trade. The key of the town was handed over by the Burgess to John R. Cawley, President of the Board of Trade, who introduced Mr. Daniel J. Gilmartin, the only one of the pioneers living, who formally opened the celebration. Mr. Gilmartin made the following brief, but very excellent address:

"Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen and members of the Board of Trade: I thank you for the honor conferred on me, for I consider it a great honor to be selected to open up "Old Home Week." Now that the festivities are about to begin, I hope the people of Archbald will be equal to the occasion and that nothing will occur to mar the pleasure or bring

disgrace upon our town.

But I have no fear that anything of the kind will happen, for I read in the destiny of our town far better hopes, far brighter visions. We who are assembled here tonight to celebrate this event must soon be gathered to our fathers who have gone before us. The time for our departure is at hand to make way for our children on the theatre of life. May God speed them and theirs. May he who shall stand here seventy years hence to celebrate this day still look around upon a free, happy and a virtuous people. May he have reason to exult, as we do, and may he with all the enthusiasm of truth as well as of poetry, rejoice that Archbald is still on the map and still a good old town to live in."

Mr. Gilmartin, the only one of the first settlers now living, was born in New York city, and came to this town when he was a small boy. He has lived here continuously since 1845, and was prominent in the politics of Berkeley township and Archbald Borough. He has served as Township Treasurer and was three times elected to Archbald borough council. He also served three times on the school board.

T. J. Spillane

PLUMBING, TINNING, HARDWARE AND
MINE SUPPLIES.



MAIN STREET, ARCHBALD, PENN'A.

CHRISTMAS HALF CENTURY AGO

How the Great Feast Was Celebrated in Archbald

Fifty years ago, the facilities for celebrating Christmas on a very elaborate scale were poor indeed. Many of the delicacies which play an important part in modern Christmas feasts were then unknown or at least unobtainable. Just think for a moment that in 1860 Archbald was the only town in Lackawanna valley between Carbondale and Scranton, yet its market did not afford a particle of fresh fish other than frozen or poorly preserved oysters, packed for weeks in two quart wooden kegs. Canned meat, fruit or vegetables of any kind were things unheard of, while celery bananas or even the ordinary varieties of vegetables were nowhere to be found. Anything designated to tickle the palate of an American epicure in those days must necessarily be an ar-

ANYTHING YOU MAY
NEED IN THE

Grocery Line

"OLD HOME WEEK."
OR ANY OTHER WEEK
YOU CAN GET IT AT

MILLER'S

JOSEPH MILLER,
Proprietor.

SOUTH MAIN STREET,
ARCHBALD.

BADLAT'S EMERGENCY SPRING CLAMP

Manufactured in Archbald

—Invented by—

JAMES BADLAT,
of Archbald, Pa.



BADLAT'S ELECTRIC SHOE FACTORY

First Shoe repairing
shop in town to use a complete line of modern shoe machinery.

Groceries and Provisions

GREEN TRUCK



JOHN KRAFT

MAIN STREET.

ticle of home preparation or manufacture. Nevertheless those were forthcoming, not perhaps in such endless variety and profusion, but certainly served to satisfy the simple wants of a not-over fastidious people.

Christmas in 1860 was observed in Archbald in much the same manner as those that had immediately preceded it. It was absolutely necessary that the elder portion of the family retire early on Christmas Eve, lest in the absence of steam whistle or church bell our repose would remain undisturbed and we fail in our desire to be present at the 5 o'clock mass in the old wooden church in the rear of the post-office. How well we remember the old structure and the good Father McSwiggan who was then the pastor. If the interior of the church was exceedingly plain, it was nevertheless cosy and comfortable.

In those early days of coal mining in the Lackawanna valley, it was customary to shut down work at the mines during the winter months. This period of enforced idleness which came with unvarying regularity and was commonly referred to as "Stop Cars", made not only the Christmas holidays but the major portion of the winter a day of rest and recuperation,

General Blacksmithing



J. KRAFT & SON

The PIONEER LAUNDRY

OF CARBONDALE.

IS NOW DOING BUSINESS IN ARCHBALD AFTER AN ABSENCE OF SEVERAL YEARS.

WE SOLICIT THE PATRONAGE OF ARCHBALD PEOPLE AND GUARANTEE GOOD WORK AND PROMPT SERVICE.

H. R. Halprin



Dry Goods,
Notions,
Ladies'
Furnishings
Piece Goods.



Main Street

which was enjoyed to the fullest extent. Game being plentiful on the surrounding hills many would take advantage of the season to satisfy their love of hunting either for the pleasure they found in it, or for the profit it afforded. Others would prefer to while away the time in lounging among the stores or the shoe shop of Jake Ritter. A family resort for the unemployed was the store of Simpson & Shea in the building now used by the Dickson store company. Here the slavery question was viewed from every standpoint and was discussed as was every other question of local or national importance.

During the winter months the customary balls, parties and social gatherings, followed in quick succession, while coasting, skating and sleighing parties furnished all the amusement the younger portion of the people desired or cared for. Archbald in those days was not a dull, monotonous or hum drum place, but was on the contrary a lively thriving and prosperous community.

The children in those days hung up their stocking, but Santa Claus did not carry such an extensive and varied collection of gifts with him as he gives to the little ones now.

Compliments of the

Olyphant Water Co.

JOHN F. HARRISON



UNDERTAKER

NEW 'PHONE

MAIN STREET

Gent's Furnishings



Boots and
Shoes
Hats and Caps

NATHAN LEVENE

PECK



“The Home Builders”

Lumber and Building
Materials. Ready Mixed
Paints, Varnish, Brushes,
Builders' Hardware and
Carpenters' Tools. : : :

Peck Lumber Mfg. Co.

PECKVILLE, PA.



ELLS'

Quick Lunch

**STEAKS
CHOPS
SANDWICHES**



C. OAKLEY ELLS, Prop.
MAIN STREET